



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I/We hereby declare that:

My/Our residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my/our name.

I/We believe I/We am/are the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

WELDING TIP

the specification of which (check one)

_____ is attached hereto

OR

X was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) October 31, 2003 as United States
Application Number 10/698,337 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) _____
(if applicable).

I/We hereby state that I/We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I/We acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I/We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(a)-(d) or (f), or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or Section 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my/our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I/We hereby appoint Ronald D. Gutt (Reg. No. 43,650), Robert H. Earp, III (Reg. No. 41,004), Robert C. Baraona (Reg. No. 45,426), David B. Cupar (Reg. No. 47,510) and Todd A. Benni, Reg. No. 42,313, as my attorneys or agents to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the USPTO connected therewith.

I/We request that correspondence in connection with this application be directed to:

Robert H. Earp, III
McDonald Hopkins Co., LPA
2100 Bank One Center
600 Superior Avenue, East
Cleveland, OH 44114-2653
(216) 348-5400

Inventor's Full Name: **JOHNNY M. HICKMAN**
Inventor's Signature: *Johnny M. Hickman* 3.29.04
Date
Citizenship: United States of America
Post Office Address: 1305 W. 7005, Ashley, Indiana 46705
Residence Address: 1305 W. 7005, Ashley, Indiana 46705

Inventor's Full Name: **MARK A. MYERS**
Inventor's Signature: *Mark A. Myers* 3/27/04
Date
Citizenship: United States of America
Post Office Address: 2912 CR 18, Waterloo, Indiana 46793
Residence Address: 2912 CR 18, Waterloo, Indiana 46793

Inventor's Full Name:

DALE W. TAYLOR

Inventor's Signature:

Dale W Taylor 3/29/04
Date

Citizenship:

United States of America

Post Office Address:

275 LN 148 Hamilton Lake
Hamilton Lake, Indiana 46842

Residence Address:

275 LN 148 Hamilton Lake
Hamilton Lake, Indiana 46842